

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 NIC-01 SAJ-01 IO-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20

ACDA-19 RSR-01 /169 W

----- 127360

R 051355 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7989

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2718

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IZ

SUBJECT: ISRAELI VIEW OF SOVIET- IRAQI RELATIONS

1. MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS DIRECTOR VERED OF MFA INTERPRETED SADDAM HUSSEIN' S MOSCOW VISIT TO EMBOFF APRIL 4 AS PROBABLY AT IRAQI INITIATIVE AND DESIGNED BOTH TO REENFORCE SADDAM' S INTERNAL POSITION AND TO GAIN AT LEAST SEMBLANCE OF SOVIET SUPPORT FOR IRAQI ATTEMPT TO GRAB KUWAITI TERRITORY. MRS VERED THOUGHT MOSCOW' S VIEW OF IRAQI SEIZURE OF KUWAITI TERRITORY WOULD BE CAUTIOUS BUT NOT UNFAVORABLE, PROVIDED IT DID NOT LEAD TO CRISIS. SHE SAID THAT WITH KUWAIT HAVING BACKED OFF ITS INITIAL REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE BEFORE IRAQI FORCES WITHDREW, IT LOOKED AS THOUGH BAGHDAD
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MIGHT SUCCEED IN GETTING ISLANDS, ESPECIALLY AS SHE COULD
DETECT NO FIRM WESTERN EFFORTS TO DETER IRAQ.

2. MRS VERED DOUBTED THAT SOVIET NAVY CINC GORSHKOV'S
IMPENDING VISIT TO IRAQ PORTENDED MAJOR INCREASE IN SOVIET-
IRAQI MILITARY COOPERATION IN NEAR FUTURE. MOSCOW HAD USED
GORSHKOV FOR VISITS TO MIDDLE EAST CAPITALS IN PAST WITHOUT
ANY DRAMATIC RESULTS. GORSHKOV VIS
SOLVED BY THE PALESTINIANS. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, SUG-
GEST HOW THE OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS WOULD CONTRIBUTE
TO THIS PROCESS AND MADE THE OBVIOUS POINT THAT THE
MOST MILITANT OF THE PALESTINIANS WILL PROBABLY CON-
TINUE TO TRY TO DISRUPT ANY PROGRESS TOWARD A PEACE
SETTLEMENT, BY TERROR OR OTHERWISE.

5. HOW THEN, I ASKED, TO COPE WITH THEM? AGAIN THE
ANSWER WAS NOT VERY CONCLUSIVE. ADHAM SAID THAT IF
THERE IS A "GOOD SETTLEMENT," I. E. ONE ACCEPTABLE TO
ALL THE OTHER ARABS, THE MILITANT PALESTINIANS WILL
RAISE HELL FOR A WHILE BUT THEIR FORCE WILL EVENTUALLY
BE SPENT.
GREENE

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED JIDDA

SECRET

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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KUWAIT
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEA

PARIS
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